China's support on resolution on terrorism

536. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

. (a) whether it is a fact that India has sought China's support on its resolution on terrorism which was placed with the UN, recently, and

(b) if so, what is China's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes Sir. During his visit to China from May 28 to June 3, 2000, Our President met his Chinese counterpart, Mr. Jiang Zemin on May 29, 2000 and sought China's support for the proposal made by India at the UN for adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

(b) The Chinese President indicated that China was opposed to all forms of terrorism be they directed against government, groups or individuals. He agreed that there was. need for strengthening cooperation among countries to combat international terrorism.

General Musharraf statement on India

537. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about General Musharraf 's statement in the Hindustan Times dated 24th June, 2000 that Kashmir alone was not the issue of threat but the threat is India's desire to dominate the Pakistani economy and foreign policy;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware about Pakistani statement that Pakistan needed a new naval base to counter India's hegemonistic designs; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the reported remarks of General Pervez Musharraf which contain his misconceptions about India's approach towards Pakistan and on the alleged reasons for Pakistan's need for a new naval base. These remarks reflect Pakistan's compulsive hostility towards India.

Government remain committed to building trust and confidence, putting into place a stable structure of cooperation and addressing all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. We expect Pakistan to demonstrate its adherence to these agreements by abandoning its sponsorship of crossborder terrorism and stopping *its* hostile propaganda against India.

Tripartite talks on India-Iran Gas Pipeline

538. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Pakistan for holding tripartite talks with itself, India and Iran to evolve a political understanding on the proposed Iran-India gas pipeline;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Refugees from Sri Lanka

539. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a flood of refugees from Sri Lanka had started crossing into India, following the capture of Jaffna by LTTE;